

Monday, October 24th update.

Mississippi River Wildlife Staff conducted an aerial waterfowl survey October 19th on Pools 7-11. The biggest news and right on time is the arrival of canvasbacks to pools 7-9. "Cans" were located in the open water of each lower pool with 24,498 being counted.

In pools 7-9, Gadwalls (2,857) were the principle puddle ducks observed, followed by mallards (1,245). It is relatively quiet down in pools 10 and 11 from the air perspective, aside from Canada geese (282) and gadwall (150). Hopefully from the ground, opportunities are better and you are seeing birds in the field.

There was an opportunity to speak with some folks who ventured out over the weekend and comments were good, noting that new birds had moved in and hunts had been successful.

Canvasback numbers along with other divers will continue to build in the upcoming weeks and soon Tundra Swans will arrive.

Be aware that water levels are still up.

Remember, the survey numbers provided are only an index of abundance to species present within the pools along transect routes. These are not total population estimates.

If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call, 608-785-9994 or send an email, Brenda.Kelly@wisconsin.gov. Our next update will be provided on Monday, October 31, 2016.

If you head out this week, good luck and have a safe and enjoyable hunt. Maybe I'll see you out there!

New for this year – We'll be posting weekly updates to the [Mallard Observation Migration Network](#), through the Missouri Department of Conservation with postings throughout the Mississippi Flyway.